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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Blue Ridge Power Agency Announces Retirement of General Manager**

Salem, Virginia – Blue Ridge Power Agency (Agency) announced today that Duane S. Dahlquist, General Manager is retiring effective June 30, 2016. Mr. Dahlquist has been with the Agency nearly 28 years—since its inception in October 1988—first serving as President of the Board of Directors through December 1995 and then as General Manager. He was the Electric Department Director for the City of Danville, VA from 1987 through 1995 and prior to that was at Okanogan County PUD No. 1, in Okanogan, WA for 10 years as an electrical engineer and then Chief Engineer. Mr. Dahlquist served nine years on the American Public Power Association, Board of Directors and on its Executive Committee. He was also the President of the Municipal Power Association Board of Directors for two years and has served for many years on the Board of Directors of the Transmission Access Policy Study Group (TAPS).

The Agency is very appreciative of Mr. Dahlquist's many years of service. On behalf of he and the Board, President Tim Taylor made the following statement: "Duane has a deep belief in the public power business model and an acute concern for the well being and sustainability of public power utilities. He has invested his career in defending the interests of these utilities broadly and more specifically has defended the interest of the Agency's utilities for nearly 41 years and the better portion of his professional career. Duane's relentless energy from lobbying in Washington and Richmond to extensive travel to attend meetings including those of trade associations, as well as with members' staff and councils, vendors and many others has proven to be priceless to our membership organizations as well as anyone associated with Public Power. All who know Duane personally know his tenacity for every detail and also recognize his leadership and contributions to our industry. However above all, he demonstrates integrity, professionalism, as well as great care and concern for his colleagues and counterparts alike. Our best wishes to Duane and his wife Susann in their retirement endeavors with a special thanks for his great contribution to the Agency."

Duane plans to continue to reside at his family's home in Danville, VA, travel, volunteer at church, spend more time golfing, restore his 1932 Series 18 V8 Ford Tudor sedan his parents bought when they married in that year and perhaps pursue fly fishing skills, as well as tinker with hobbies that have been dormant for many years—HO model trains and woodworking.